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28 June 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Technical Development Committee

SUBJECT: Staff Study on Contract for Data Reduction Services

1. The Problem:

TID is responsible for the determination of camera attitude from stellar photography.

2. Facts:

a. TID does not have the instruments nor computer program to measure star images and reduce the data. Efforts are being made to develop this capability within TID, however, it will be approximately a year before achievement.

b. The current contract with [REDACTED] to reduce this data expires 30 June 1963.

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c. [REDACTED] is the only known organization prepared to perform this reduction of data and cleared to handle the material.

d. A significantly increased volume of inputs is scheduled for FY-64, the first one being already in-house.

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e. [REDACTED] has submitted cost estimates for stellar data reduction.

3. Discussion of the Facts:

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[REDACTED] has been under contract to measure star images and reduce the data for NPIC. [REDACTED] was selected because of their experience in connection with a similar program for AMS. AMS has now installed the measuring instruments, which [REDACTED] has been using, in their own facility. NPIC has a working agreement with AMS whereby AMS will measure the stellar images. It is still necessary to have the data reduced at [REDACTED]. Based upon the limited work performed to date, [REDACTED] has submitted cost estimates for reduction of data for various types of input. The inputs already in-house or imminent as well as those scheduled for

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FY-64, necessitate rapid action to insure a means for the reduction of data to provide attitude information. NPIC is in the process of acquiring instruments to measure stellar images and is working toward an in-house capability to reduce the data. Approximately a year will be necessary to accomplish this.

4. Recommendation:

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It is recommended that a contract be negotiated with [REDACTED] to reduce the star image measurements being provided by AMS and provide NPIC with the resulting attitude data.

[REDACTED]
Chief, Technical Intelligence Division

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Attachment:

Cost Estimate for Computations

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